

New Oil 'Cracking' Process Will Save Valuable Solvent

A few years ago scientists revolutionized the gigantic oil industry by introduction of the cracking process, which made possible the production of four times as much gasoline from the same amount of crude oil as had been previously produced by the distilling process.

In recovering stability the oil industry is again turning to men trained by universities in scientific research. New uses for crude oil must be found, new types of gasoline and of lubricants must be found, to meet new conditions and new needs.

Among those at work on oil problems is Dr. Laird J. Stabler, professor of industrial chemistry at the University of Southern California, who has long been known as an outstanding expert on petroleum. Dr. Stabler is now at work on a new method of cracking which will produce an unsaturated gasoline and at the same time permit extraction of solvents which have become necessary in the manufacture of automobile spray paints.

Certain lacquer paints containing nitro-cellulose are in almost universal use for automobiles. Solvents, for which there were until recently no uses, are required for the solution of the nitro-cellulose.

The manufacture of unsaturated gasoline has also become a necessity, because automobile manufacturers are increasing compression in the cylinders in order to increase the mileage obtainable on a gallon of fuel. As the compression increases the tendency to knock becomes greater. This tendency can best be overcome by the use of an unsaturated gasoline.

First National Bank Puts in 50 Percent More Deposit Boxes

The First National Bank of Torrance has increased the number of its deposit boxes in its vault about 50 percent in order to take care of increasing demands. "People are realizing, more and more, that the nominal rental of

Readers May See Mission Play at Half Usual Price

The Torrance Herald and Lomita News have secured a very liberal arrangement for their readers with the management of the new Mission Playhouse at old San Gabriel during the summer season of John Steven McGroarty's 16-year-old world-famous California drama.

Readers of The Torrance Herald and Lomita News may see this ever-popular production in its new home at half the regular price during July by presenting the special identification card coupon printed below.

This first run of the Mission Play in its new and permanent home has been marked by the enthusiastic attendance of many who have seen it numerous times in the old wooden structure which housed it since the beginning. All seem anxious to see the play in its new atmosphere and with new opportunities. The story of how California began which it tells seems every day as fresh and as captivating as each day's setting sun.

Heretofore the play ran only during the winter season. But this time it is being prolonged into the summer season in order to accommodate the thousands of residents and visitors who wish to catch some of the added glamour which has attached itself to the epic with the ushering in of another era in its record-breaking history.

Clip the coupon for this privilege.

The new boxes are mostly of the larger variety, which afford room for storing silverware and other valuable articles during vacation periods.

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Forest Fire Reserve Is Ready for Active Battle on Fronts

American Legion executives, directors of the Chamber of Commerce and officials of the Conservation Association of Southern California, at a meeting held on Tuesday at the University Club in Los Angeles, perfected the details of the organization of the Forest Fire Fighters Reserve, which is only to be called into action when a dangerous fire of major proportions occurs.

Actual organization is to consist of a series of units of ten men each, with a sergeant in command. There shall be patrols of four units each, with a captain in command. These shall operate along the usual lines of military procedure. It was explained that four or more units, up to a limit of ten units, are about all the men that can be used to advantage on a fire fighting front.

The plan agreed upon calls for an advisory board composed of men of experience in forest fire fighting. These men, with the staff officers, shall be empowered to direct the operations of a third line of defense composed of the Forest Fire Fighters Reserve, which is only to be called into action when a dangerous fire of major proportions occurs.

The men are to be paid at the rate of 35 cents an hour. This is a government law. There will be need for timekeepers and clerks and men in the commissary department. However, only young and active able-bodied men are to be used at the front, and the staff officer is empowered to draft these, though the quotas are to be obtained without draft from the corporations, it is believed, because of the enthusiasm that has been aroused for the reserve.

A program of education has been prepared to bring home to the public the necessary information regarding forest fire prevention and the work in connection with the conservation of our watersheds. This constitutes the adequate protection of brush cover and undergrowth in our foothills and forests.

Federal, state, county and city fire chiefs, forest officers, and their duly appointed agents, are empowered to draft physically fit men whenever and wherever necessary to fight a forest fire. The Forest Fire Fighters Reserve is to work with the constituted authorities in order to provide a force of at least 2500 men thoroughly trained and ready for work this summer.

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